

## REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to a species election under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, the Official Action avers that the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention are present in the claims:

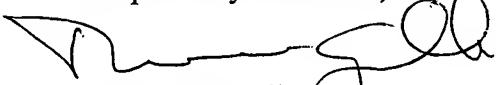
Species I, readable on Figure 1;  
Species II, readable on Figure 2;  
Species III, readable on Figure 3;  
Species IV, readable on Figure 4;  
Species V, readable on Figure 5;  
Species VI, readable on Figure 6B; and  
Species VII, readable on Figure 7.

It is the Examiner's position that the species listed as Species I-VII are patentably distinct from each other.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for species election, Applicants elect to prosecute the subject matter of Species II, which is readable on Claims 2, 3 and 12-15 along with generic Claims 1 and 11. However, Applicant reserves the right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter in this application.

In view of the foregoing, an examination on the merits of the elected claims, at an early date, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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